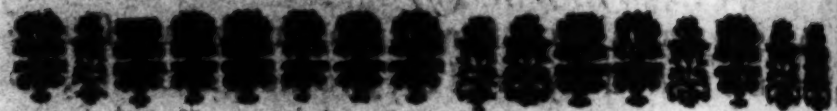


# AN ELEGY

On the Execution  
of Mr. ARTHUR KNIGHT.

**A**S Socrates, because he durst dispute  
A Plurality of Gods; was forc'd to die:  
Yet when his friends bewail'd his unjust fate,  
Incur'd for noble Truth, and Popular Hate;  
He gladly said, Who would not be content  
Rather then guilty, to fall innocent?  
So injur'd Arthur, since thy blameless mind  
Hath purg'd thine hands, and inward parts refin'd,  
Since thy unshackl'd conscience disdains  
Guilt woven Fetters, or heart-binding Chains:  
(For vile Insects may stamp your Actions, ill  
But no man can be bad against his will.)  
We must thy death a persecution call,  
And more a Sacrifice, than Funeral;  
The Altar of thy breast being free from dross,  
Makes the Line, Fillets; and the Tree a Cross;  
Whereon thy former crimes did offerings lie,  
That so thy soul may fly a victor o'er the Skies.  
Now will he live his own Cause justly Triumphant;  
Each proves his own best Judge; yet, when he dies,

FINIS.



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THE  
SPEECHES  
AND  
CONFESSION  
OF

{ ARTHUR KNIGHT,  
And  
THOMAS LARET,

At the places of Execution in Russel street  
neer Covent-Garden, and at Islington, on Wed-  
nesday last, being the second of this instant  
*March, 1653.*

Being condemned (by Order of Law) to  
be hang'd on a Gibbet, neer unto the place  
where they committed the Fact: The one, for  
killing of Major *Furnifal*; The other, for mur-  
dering of his own Wife.

With the great Oath and Protestation taken by the  
*said Thomas Laret*, immediatly before his Death, in the  
presence of Mr *Cook* the Minister: And his Exhortation  
to all Men in generall, both in City and Coun-  
trei, never to strike or beat their Wives  
any more.

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Published according to Order. *Mar. 3*

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Imprinted at London, for G. Horton, 1653.



SPENCER  
AND  
CONFESSION

ARTHUR KNIGHT  
AND  
THOMAS JARVIS

At the place of Execution in Russell Street  
next Covent-Garden at 11 o'clock on Wed-  
nesday last being the second of this instant


Being condemned (by Order of Law) to  
be hang'd on a Gallows near unto the place  
where they committed the said Murder  
the said ARTHUR KNIGHT and THOMAS JARVIS

With the great Oath and Protestation taken by the  
said ARTHUR KNIGHT and THOMAS JARVIS  
before the Magistrates of the City and County  
of London in and about the said Place  
the said ARTHUR KNIGHT and THOMAS JARVIS

Published according to Order.

Printed at London, for G. Kington, 1673.

The Speeches and Confession of Arthur Knight, and Thomas Laret, at the places of Execution, in Russel-street neer Covent-Garder, and at Illington, on Wednesday last, being the second of this instant March, 1653.

 *Wednesday* last being the second of this instant March, Arthur Knight was brought to the place of Execution in Russel-street, neer Covent-Garden, where he most barbarously murdered M. *Furnifal*, who had formerly been a commandor in the Army, in which time he behav'd himself so wel, that he gain'd the love of all sorts of people, both in city and countrey, for wheresoever he came he had a diligent care that his soldiers should do no wrong; yet wee may see that the best of us all can no wayes prevent danger, but by heavenly providence; as may appear by this Gentleman here spoken of; for one day he having been merry with some of his friends, his chance was to light on two of his mortal enemies, being brothers in wickedness, and Knights of

of the Blade; for meeting with him, they saluted him, saying, *God save your noble Sir*; and after their false friendship, desired his company to drink a glass of wine or beer; who assenting thereunto, all three went together to *Mr. Bowers*, a Cook, next door unto the *Rose Tavern* in *Russel Street* in *Great Garden*, where having got the said Major into a Room alone, *Tho. Knight* held fast the chamber door, whilst his brother *Arthur Knight* in a most cruel and bloody manner fell upon him, wounding him with his knife, stabbing him in several places, and put his nose in a most grievous manner, and then hauling of him down flambé upon him with his foot till he left him for dead; which having done, took the money out of his pocket, and so ran forth into the street, wearing

The Cook when he saw what was done, immediately followed them; and his wife after him: whereupon bloody *Arthur* began to draw his sword, and swore he would do as much to him: whereupon the Cook manfully ran into him, and took his weapon by which means he clasp'd with life: so the Cook's wife being a good spirited woman, ventured her life in her husband's behalf (as a woman should do) and held the other brother, or else consequently her husband might have lost his life. To be brief, the Gentleman dy'd of his wounds and bruises which they had given him. One of the brothers is fled and gone; but we hear re-taken: The other by order of Law condemned to dye, and to be hang'd upon a Gibbet near unto the place where the murder was committed; on where accordingly he was executed; but before he went up the Ladder, he made a short speech to the people; the effect whereof take as followeth.



Good People,

It is a thing too apparent in these our distracted and froward Times, that Conscience is fled, and Promise broke; even so is it verified by the practice and proceedings of many desperate and hasty-spirited men. Which unwarrantable actions, hath now brought me to this untimely end; yet while I live, my heart shall not faint me. I sorrow not to die; but I grieve at the manner of my death. For might I in the field encounter with an adversary, and to the end would nothing discontent me. Or might I be a prey to some wild beast, and so perish, I were a happy man. But to fall into the Hangmans hands, Oh me thrice miserable and unfortunate! Every wrong I have done now called to remembrance wrings a drop of blood from my heart. O there is nothing to the worm of Conscience; nor no Hell to a mind toucht with guilt. For as Folly perswaded me to lead a sinful life, so Justice hath at length brought me to a sorrowful end: Which I desire patiently to undergo, and the Lord strengthen me in this Tryal of affliction. Then immediately after a short Prayer, pertinent to the work of the day, and singing of a Psalm, he went up the Ladder, shewing an end of courage even unto the resolution of his death. And then lifting up his hands, and saying, Lord have mercy upon me, the Executioner did his Office.

The speech was made by a young man, at the place of  
execution, in the County of Kent, at the place of

**T**he young man (by Order of Law) having received the  
sentence of Death to be hang'd upon a Gallies tree  
the place where the execution was committed, and when  
at last he was solemnly brought to the place of execu-  
tion, where many hundreds of people frequented to behold  
this Object of pity. And no sooner was he come to the said  
place, but immediately Mr. Cook, the Magistrate came, and pro-  
posed several questions unto him touching his life & con-  
science, and whether he had any hand in the murdering  
of his former wife. Hearing him now to clear his con-  
science before God and Man.

To which he answer'd, That he was innocent of it &  
that he was also desired the Court to hear him &  
clear his conscience therein, and of the truth and sinceri-  
ty of his heart, being spotless and free from any such guilt  
or crime. This is truth (Sir) and nothing but truth (say-  
ing his hand upon his breast) saying of himself

**So help me God**  
Cook, I desire to hear it, but pray resolve me  
nothing more.

Here, I will, Sir, if I can.

Cook, I desire you further to clear your conscience of  
that great Odium, which for some years hath lain upon  
you, about the sudden death of your former wife, & deal  
ingenuously. I beseech you, for your poor soul's sake, &  
you now to declare in the presence of God, Angels & Men,  
whether or no, you were the occasion of your former wife's  
death, as some report.



I protest (Sir) I am innocent of any such thing; and as I hope for mercy from the great God of Heaven, so I clear my conscience, and acquit my self of any such bloody act, or inhumane crime. What say you to the fact for which you are now to suffer death? As for the crime which I am adjudg'd to dye for, I take God to witness I did in honesty; and I protest I never had the least thought of murdering my dear Wife: no, I lov'd and lov'd her my heart; I respect'd her with a tender affection; but tie cruel being in a great passion at that time, I did both strike her and kick her; for which I hope I have made my peace with God. And I desire all good people that hears me this day to take warning by me, and to avoid the striking of their wives, either in heat of blood or out of passion: O the heavy sighs and woful groanes, that have been occasion'd by these inhumane blowes, having been sore oppress'd upon my lamentable and languishing bed of affliction; and many a time, both day and night, have even curs'd the hour that ever I was born. O the innumerable evils that have compassed me about, mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more then the haire of my head, yet my heart shall not fail me: Being assured, that the mercies of the living Lord doth far exceed my sins and transgressions. O wash me throughly from mine iniquity, good Lord, and cleanse me from my sin. Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter then snow. For thy name sake, O Lord, pardon mine iniquity, and strengthen me in this great Work that I am to go forth: O let thy glorious countenance shine upon me here; support me, dear Father, I beseech thee, during this moment of time that I have to live; and after this life, grant me a glorious

our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who for our redemption  
 gave himself a ransom for all, to be redeemed by his blood  
 which being brought unto him, he embraced the poor soul  
 and wept bitterly. But this time being short, his child was  
 taken from him and buried with him in his tomb. Then  
 the Minister desired him to prepare himself for death, and  
 after prayers, and singing of a Psalm, he went up the Lad-  
 der; and as soon as he was at the top, he put about his neck  
 the executioner's halibut, but immediately he leapt off the Ladder  
 and gave the fatal blow.

**Mercurius Politicus.**

Comprising the sum of all Intelligence, with the Affairs and Designs now on foot in the three Nations of  
**England, Ireland, and Scotland.**

P.P. London  
K.

In defence of the Commonwealth, and for Information of the People.

Isa. xxxviii. Seria: { Horat. de  
Ar. Poet.

From Thursday, February. 24. to Thursday March. 3. 1653.



As regard my materials are not so plentiful as were necessary for the making up of an intire exact Relation according to the dignity of the subject, in all the Particulars; therefore, you must take things as they come represented in parcells from severall hands; which being added to what was published in the last, you may by collecting all together, have a sight (in some measure) of the late successes and Victory. In the first place, take this following.

From aboard the *Triumph*, February. 21.

Our God in whom we trust hath appeared gratioſly for and by his servants in defeating this very great Fleet of the *Hollanders*, and worſting them in 3, encounters these 3 daies together, and giving many of their men of warre into our hands, destroying others, and driving away the rest,